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TELEPHONE MAIN 651.

THE WEATHER

Oregon and Washington—Rain in west; rain or snow in east; colder except on coast.

OUR "DEFY."

Astoria can, and does, boast honestly of her prime health record.

Think of but 123 deaths in 1908 in this city of 15,000 people.

And of these, 21 were of consumption, and 3 of cancer, all from abroad; and 14 due to drowning and accident.

No city of this size in all this country can put up a better showing on its official records; especially as 36 of these deaths occurred between the ages of 50 and 90 years.

These plain facts, supplemented by the comparative figures of 238 births, 100 girls and 138 boys, gives the world distinctly to understand that we are "some pumpkins" when it comes to holding our own on a census program.

Beat it, if you can.

AMERICA'S PURSE.

We want the Congress to understand right now that no man in all this section cares a rap how loose they hold the purse-strings of the United States when it comes to dealing right with the stricken thousands in the Mediterranean. Do as we were done by when our own San Francisco lay in ruins and her thousands were down and out. Forget nothing, and do all that may be demanded of a great rich country such as this with millions on millions in deep and righteous sympathy, and other millions on millions wherewith to properly express that sympathy. Never was there a cause so appealing, and never a purse so full as ours. Give with abundance, and know the people are squarely behind you.

MUST MEET THE DEMAND.

With the utmost respect for Astoria's governing body, the Common Council, as such, and for its individual members, the Morning Astorian hazards the caution, ascertained direct from the people, that there is something expected this year in the way of abridgement of the financial programs here for 1909. There is evidently no disposition toward parsimony, nor any hide-bound policy, nor hard-and-fast doctrine of economy; but a quiet, insistent, rational claim for public consideration of the taxpayers and of the extraordinary load they are carrying.

They are not asking for anything; they are standing squarely upon their rights and waiting to see what trend develops at the city hall; and this, in the hope that the new policies will be such as to ease and gratify them. In any other event there is a strong disposition to interfere by injunction and such expedients as may address themselves to the situation.

Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna
Cleanses the System Effectually; Disperses Colds and Headaches due to Constipation; Acts naturally, acts truly as a Laxative.
Best for Men, Women and Children—Young and Old.
To get its Beneficial Effects Always buy the Genuine which has the full name of the Company.

CALIFORNIA Fig Syrup Co.
by whom it is manufactured, printed on the front of every package.
SOLD BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS.
one size only, regular price 50¢ per bottle.

Everything that is essential to be done this year must be done, of course; this much goes without discussion; but they are looking for an abatement of everything that can be so disposed; and there will be some surprise for all concerned if this limitation is willfully exceeded. We are speaking by the card, and we do not doubt the members of the council are as well posted in this important premise as we are. It is only fair the people should know the warning has gone forth publicly, and on this ground the Astorian has ventured to utter it.

The year is not propitious for the launching of any big initial civic projects. On the contrary, it is peculiarly appropriate for the exercise of caution, scrutiny, economy and a definite interest in the welfare of those whose money pays the bills. This must be among the controlling elements of administrative operation in 1909 or there will be something doing in more than one direction.

WANTED: EXACT FACTS.

"Reverting to the accounts of the auditor and police judge, as compared with the statement submitted to you at the end of 1907, we consider that if the present ledger was turned over to any accountant, no matter how competent he might be, unless he knew the history of the charges against certain streets and was familiar with the amendments recently made to the city charter, or had the auditor to explain both, it would be practically impossible for him to make an intelligent report from the face of said ledger. Your auditor cannot, without further instructions from you make it any more intelligible for this reason."

The foregoing extract is taken from the report of the experts, of date February 15th, last, to the Common Council, upon the conclusion of their examination of the city books. Coming from such men as handled this matter becomes one of peculiar significance because of unquestioned correctness of their conclusions and the warranty they had for drawing them; significant of a condition, not necessarily wrong, or suspicious, or hurtful as to the public accounts, but of a glaring ambiguity in public records that should not exist. Upon such a predicate alone, the council will be amply justified in launching a searching and crucial examination of the books of the city for at least a period of six years, and at the hands of an outside expert who can give the time necessary to the widest possible range of scrutiny and who, from the standpoint of professional engagement, may not leave such an eccentric condition unsolved.

Such a step, just now, would be appreciated everywhere in the city; it is timely, and a peremptory rule everywhere; the people would like to know exactly where they stand, and the course would be of distinct advantage to the officers themselves who have had charge so long. And it may be taken without, in the remotest manner or vaguest suggestion, calling into account the perfect faith of those officers. No man feels that there is anything of deliberate wrong anywhere along the line; but a general solution of whole situation and the elimination of just such points as the experts have made, would go far toward establishing a sense of relief and the pleasant conviction that all is well and better than we knew.

WILL SEND THEM TO JAIL.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—With precautions to safeguard its secrets redoubled, the federal grand jury today resumed its investigation of the relations between the big packing establishments in Chicago and the railroads. United States District Attorney Sims said he demanded jail sentences for any witness who divulged the secrets of the jury room and also promised similar treatment to any ward establishing a sense of relief from any witness.

ABSOLUTE PURITY

If You Are Not Using

"FERNDALE BUTTER"

You Are Not Getting the Best for Your Money

ASK YOUR GROCER

MANUFACTURED BY

CARPENTER & CHANDLER

GRAYS RIVER, WASH

THE SANCY DIAMOND

Legend of Louis de Berquem and the Celebrated Gem.

A NIGHT LAMP FOR A KING.

Checked Career of the Brilliant Stone After the Death of Charles the Timid. Some Facts About the Invention of Diamond Cutting.

Louis de Berquem, says tradition, was a poor jeweler's workman, but he fell in love with the daughter of a wealthy jeweler. This avaricious father would not give his daughter in marriage to any man not possessed of gold. Louis, having neither "expectations" from relatives nor favor at court, sought to make his fortune. He had often heard the father of his beloved remark that the man who discovered a method of cutting diamonds would become very wealthy, for up to that time they knew nothing more than to scrape off the gravel, and the diamond was left in its native state. Neither time, fire nor the mill could affect the diamond.

After many investigations and deep thought Louis bethought himself that iron is fashioned with steel, which is only hardened iron, and it occurred to him that perhaps the diamond would yield to the diamond. He made an experiment, which was at once crowned with success.

A few days later he presented himself before the rich jeweler with two diamonds cut into facets. He obtained the hand he sought and amassed a great fortune by his secret, which he divulged only after he had become wealthy.

King Charles the Timid was the principal customer of Louis de Berquem. The fastidious enemy of Louis XI, then possessed a large diamond, since become celebrated, accounted among the finest of precious stones. But this diamond was ill shaped, and the fire which it held burned in vain. Louis de Berquem cut and polished this stone, and nothing could equal the joy of Charles the Timid when the jeweler brought him the great diamond, so glittering with light that it lit up the darkness, and this to such an extent that the prince said, "It will serve me as a night lamp." Berquem received 3,000 ducats for his work.

As for the diamond, this is the one which was found in January, 1477, on the body of Charles the Timid after the battle of Nancy. A soldier picked it up, said it for one gold piece to a priest, who in turn sold it for three pieces of gold to a merchant, who took it to the Duke of Florence.

From the hands of this prince it passed into the possession of the king of Portugal. He sold it for 70,000 francs to one of the companions of Henri III, Nicholas de Harlay, baron of Sancy. Since this time the first large diamond to be cut is known as "the Sancy."

This legend leads to other considerations of the cutting of diamonds ascribed to Louis de Berquem at Brussels in 1405.

Hardly any one will assert boldly that no diamonds were cut before that date, but it is reasonable to suppose that Louis de Berquem regulated cutting by arranging the facets.

Long before the birth of Louis de Berquem cutting was known in India. Even in Europe we find among the treasures of the churches thick diamonds cut into table and cabnet, the upper sides beaten into sections. In 1300, according to the inventory of the jewels of Louis, duke of Anjou, is found an entire series of cut diamonds. There is mention of a flat diamond with six sides, of a heart shaped diamond, of a diamond with eight sides, of a lozenge shaped diamond, of a diamond pointed on four sides and of a reliquary in which was set a diamond cut in the shape of a shield.

It is no less interesting to follow the fortunes of the Sancy a little further. It remained in the Sancy family some time, and Henri III. took it from them. It was destined to serve as a pledge for the raising of a body of Swiss soldiers, but the servant entrusted with bringing this diamond to the king was attacked, put to death, and the diamond was thought to be lost. Finally it was discovered that the servant had been assassinated in the forest of Dole and through the care of the priest had been buried in the village cemetery. Then the Baron de Sancy resolved that the diamond must not be lost. In fact, they found it in the stomach of the hapless, faithful servant, who swallowed it at the moment that he fell. According to the inventory of 1701 the Sancy weighed 33 1/2 carats.

It disappeared in 1792 to reappear in Russia. Its value is estimated at a million francs. Before the revolution it was among the French crown jewels.—New York World.

Silence is sometimes the severest criticism.—Baxter.

White and Red Wines.
White and red wines owe their difference to the fact that, while the former is permitted to ferment without the grape skins, these are allowed to remain in the case of the latter. The color of the grapes makes no difference whatever to the color of the wine which they produce, for the juice of all grapes is as nearly as possible colorless. For instance, the grape which yields champagne is almost black in outward appearance.

Over the Telephone.
"Is this Dr. Smith?"
"Yes."
"Well, this is Mrs. Jones. I wish you would come over as soon as convenient. My cuckoo clock has a little throat trouble."—Harper's Weekly.

His Mentor.
From the time a boy sits under a street corner electric light playing with toads until he is blind and toothless he has to account to some woman why he didn't come home earlier.—Atchison Globe.

Not Like His Parent.
"Do you think Mr. Skinnum's baby will take after its father?"
"Not at all. The other day they persuaded it to cough up a nickel it had swallowed."—Exchange.

Doing Good Service.
Bill—Is that watch your father gave you ten years ago still doing good service? Jill—Yes. I pawned it again today for the twentieth time.—London Opinion.

It never occurs to fools that merit and good fortune are closely united.—Goethe.

The Astorian advertisements catch

Fisher Brothers Company

SOLE AGENTS

Marbour and Finlayson Salmon Twines and Netting
McCormick Harvesting Machines
Oliver Chilled Ploughs
Sharples Cream Separators
Raccolith Flooring Starrett's Tools

Hardware, Groceries, Ship Chandlery

Tan Bark, Blue Stone, Muriatic Acid, Welch Coal, Tar, Ash Oars, Oak Lumber, Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods, Paints, Oils and Glass

Fishermen's Pure Manila Rope, Cotton Twine and Seins Web

We Want Your Trade FISHER BROS.

BOND STREET

John Fox, Pres. F. L. Bishop, Sec. Astoria Savings Bank, Treas.
Nelson Troyer, Vice-Pres. and Supt.

ASTORIA IRON WORKS

DESIGNERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF THE LATEST IMPROVED Canning Machinery, Marine Engines and Boilers
COMPLETE CANNERY OUTFITS FURNISHED.
Correspondence Solicited. Foot of Fourth Street.

JANUARY TIDE TABLE.

JANUARY 1909.					JANUARY 1909.				
High Water.		A. M.		P. M.	Low Water.		A. M.		P. M.
Date.	h. m.	ft.	h. m.	ft.	Date.	h. m.	ft.	h. m.	ft.
Friday	8:32	8.4	9:45	6.3	Friday	2:18	2.4	3:35	0.8
Saturday	9:25	8.7	10:50	6.6	Saturday	3:20	2.9	4:35	0.1
SUNDAY	10:16	9.0	11:47	6.8	SUNDAY	4:22	3.1	5:30	0.5
Monday	11:05	9.1	.....	.....	Monday	5:17	3.3	6:15	1.0
Tuesday	11:58	9.1	.....	.....	Tuesday	6:15	3.5	7:15	1.2
Wednesday	12:52	9.1	12:28	9.1	Wednesday	7:15	3.6	8:14	1.0
Thursday	1:45	9.1	1:05	8.8	Thursday	8:15	3.5	9:14	0.6
Friday	2:35	9.1	1:42	8.5	Friday	9:15	3.5	10:14	0.1
Saturday	3:28	9.1	2:20	8.1	Saturday	10:15	3.5	11:14	0.4
SUNDAY	4:20	9.1	2:55	7.7	SUNDAY	11:15	3.5	12:14	0.9
Monday	5:10	9.1	3:35	7.2	Monday	12:15	3.5	1:14	1.4
Tuesday	6:00	9.1	4:20	6.7	Tuesday	1:15	3.5	2:14	2.1
Wednesday	6:50	9.1	5:05	6.2	Wednesday	2:15	3.5	3:14	2.7
Thursday	7:40	9.1	5:50	5.6	Thursday	3:15	3.5	4:14	3.4
Friday	8:30	9.1	6:35	5.0	Friday	4:15	3.5	5:14	4.1
Saturday	9:20	9.1	7:20	4.4	Saturday	5:15	3.5	6:14	4.8
SUNDAY	10:10	9.1	8:05	3.8	SUNDAY	6:15	3.5	7:14	5.5
Monday	11:00	9.1	8:50	3.2	Monday	7:15	3.5	8:14	6.2
Tuesday	11:50	9.1	9:35	2.6	Tuesday	8:15	3.5	9:14	6.9
Wednesday	12:40	9.1	10:20	2.0	Wednesday	9:15	3.5	10:14	7.6
Thursday	1:30	9.1	11:05	1.4	Thursday	10:15	3.5	11:14	8.3
Friday	2:20	9.1	11:50	0.8	Friday	11:15	3.5	12:14	9.0
Saturday	3:10	9.1	12:35	0.2	Saturday	12:15	3.5	1:14	9.7
SUNDAY	4:00	9.1	1:20	0.6	SUNDAY	1:15	3.5	2:14	10.4
Monday	4:50	9.1	2:05	1.0	Monday	2:15	3.5	3:14	11.1
Tuesday	5:40	9.1	2:50	1.4	Tuesday	3:15	3.5	4:14	11.8
Wednesday	6:30	9.1	3:35	1.8	Wednesday	4:15	3.5	5:14	12.5
Thursday	7:20	9.1	4:20	2.2	Thursday	5:15	3.5	6:14	13.2
Friday	8:10	9.1	5:05	2.6	Friday	6:15	3.5	7:14	13.9
Saturday	9:00	9.1	5:50	3.0	Saturday	7:15	3.5	8:14	14.6
SUNDAY	9:50	9.1	6:35	3.4	SUNDAY	8:15	3.5	9:14	15.3
Monday	10:40	9.1	7:20	3.8	Monday	9:15	3.5	10:14	16.0
Tuesday	11:30	9.1	8:05	4.2	Tuesday	10:15	3.5	11:14	16.7
Wednesday	12:20	9.1	8:50	4.6	Wednesday	11:15	3.5	12:14	17.4
Thursday	1:10	9.1	9:35	5.0	Thursday	12:15	3.5	1:14	18.1
Friday	2:00	9.1	10:20	5.4	Friday	1:15	3.5	2:14	18.8
Saturday	2:50	9.1	11:05	5.8	Saturday	2:15	3.5	3:14	19.5
SUNDAY	3:40	9.1	11:50	6.2	SUNDAY	3:15	3.5	4:14	20.2

THE KING

OF CURES

DR. KING'S

NEW DISCOVERY

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS
AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG
DISEASES PREVENTS
PNEUMONIA AND CONSUMPTION

"Two years ago a severe cold settled on my lungs and so completely prostrated me that I was unable to work and scarcely able to stand. I then was advised to try Dr. King's New Discovery, and after using one bottle I went back to work, as well as I ever was."
W. J. ATKINS, Banner Springs, Tenn.

PRICE 50c

AND \$1.00

SOLD AND GUARANTEED BY
CHARLES ROBERTS & SON, DRUGGISTS.

NAME MEANS SOMETHING.
When A. E. Petersen built and named the "Modern" barber shop, he meant that it should stand for what it was called. No patron has missed a single feature of the modern barber parlor at that house; and every new device in the way of perfect comfort and service is constantly added as it develops. The latest is an expert bootblack, the best in the business; a qualification that makes his employment really modern.

The Quelle

ELEVENTH STREET

Opposite the Bakeronian

HOT

CHICKEN TAMALES

EVERY EVENING

HOME-MADE, and of the choicest ingredients; put up under supervision that guarantees their perfect freedom from all deleterious matter.

MRS. F. WOOLLEY

PROPRIETRESS

Nature provides

but one

CALIFORNIA

It is the natural winter home of many thousands of the world's best people. Under the gentle influence of its mild winter climate, every amusement and recreation abounds. bathing, boating, fishing, driving; such picnics, parties and "jollifications."

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Los Angeles, Paso Robles Hot Springs, Hotel del Monte, Santa Barbara, San Diego, Santa Monica, Venice, Long Beach, Santa Cruz, or a score of similar resorts and you will find health, congenial surroundings, hospitable associates, faultless accommodations and numberless attractions and conveniences.

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Makes inexpensive round trip excursion rates to California.

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